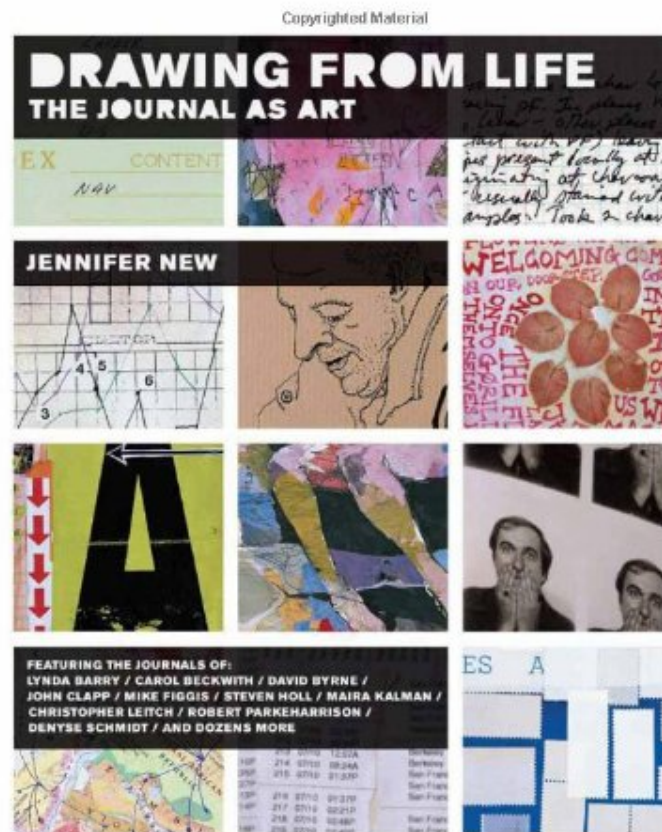


# Drawing From Life: The Journal as Art

Jennifer New

audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



Copyrighted Material



#536168 in Books 33 Books Co. 2005-09-01 Ingredients: Example Ingredients Original language: English PDF # 1 10.10 x .70 x 8.10l, 1.70 #File Name: 1568984456192 pages | File size: 79.Mb

**Jennifer New : Drawing From Life: The Journal as Art** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Drawing From Life: The Journal as Art:

24 of 24 people found the following review helpful. Quality production, quality content By C. Ebeling To the world outside of practicing or incidental artists, the word "journal" connotes text and writing, so much penmanship. Jennifer New's DRAWING FROM LIFE effectively illustrates that the impulse engines for journaling--observation, reflection, exploration and creation--can operate through visual imagery, either collected scraps or original work, as well as text. Her book looks at artistic journals kept by a variety of people, some of them whose careers would suggest left-brain strengths but whose extemporaneous work is highly creative. Some of the journal-keepers she profiles are recognizable from the media, such as musician/filmmaker David Byrne, graphic novelist Lynda Barry, the guy who photographs everything he eats and the creator of the 1,000 journals project. New offers a succinct profile of each journal-keeper and sample color plates from their books. It is exciting to see a mind in the moment of conception, and how different minds order information. Likewise, it is inspiring to see how journals can enhance lives and push

creative problem solving faculties. An architectural designer notes that while his firm employs considerable high technology in its work, he finds that the germination of ideas is best promoted at the outset by the melding of mind, eye and hand through journaling. This is far more sophisticated than books dedicated to decorating journal and scrapbook pages. Though a soft cover, the book is sumptuously produced. The pages are heavy, glossy stock, the binding is stitched, not merely glued. The lay-out is particularly effective. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A New Look at Artists' Journals By Bob from sketchbob (dot) com There are plenty of books out there about sketchbooks and artists journals. Sadly, few of them cover the full scope of this under-appreciated art form. Unlike most books in the genre, Jennifer New's "Drawing from Life: The Journal as Art" explores the motivations artists have for creating sketchbooks and the reasons why art journals are as valid an expressive medium as any shown in a gallery. "Drawing from Life," which features the work of 31 journal artists, could be enjoyed on a purely visual level and would still be one of the better examples available. But New offers more: a different way for us to look at sketchbooks and artists journals. Her definition of journals includes work that challenges our preconceptions of what is or is not an art journal. Consequently, she includes not only the expected visual artists, illustrators, and designers, but also filmmakers, architects, songwriters, scientists--even an engineer and a psychiatrist. In addition to an expanded definition of what comprises a sketchbook or journal, New also provides us a four part framework in which to view them. This framework, which she calls a "hierarchy of reasons" for keeping a journal, highlights common threads she has seen in the thousands of sketchbook pages she reviewed for this book. New assigns the sketchbooks she presents to one of the following four categories: observation, reflection, exploration, or creation. By dividing the books into these four categories, she provides insight into the underlying reasons people keep sketchbooks and a context that enriches not only the work in this book, but all sketchbooks and art journals. Throughout the book, New successfully straddles the divide between substance and pretense, offering readers a view of sketchbooks that is thoughtful and sophisticated without being overly cerebral. She treats her subject seriously without sacrificing the intimacy inherent in the medium, and the warmth of her affection for journals of all types permeates her writing. You won't learn many techniques from "Drawing from Life," but the market is rife with how-to guides. New offers readers something truly original instead: an insightful, intelligent context in which to consider the medium of sketchbooks. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. An exciting look at journals! By booboo\_babies If you are looking for pretty, "Somerset Studio" style journals, you'll be disappointed by this book. However, this book opens the mind to the possibility of many more kinds of journals. A wide variety of journalers from all over the world are represented here. Fascinating stuff!

Who hasn't, at one time or other, kept a journal? The impulse to record our daily lives on paper is nothing if not universal. Still, only a few of us have the discipline to make it past the first few entries, and fewer still manage to create diaries whose insight and visual beauty can inspire anyone but their authors. *Drawing from Life: The Journal as Art* is an exploration of these exceptions books of obsessive wonder filled to their borders with drawings, sketches, watercolors, graphs, charts, lists, collages, portraits, and photographs. Jennifer New takes readers on a spirited tour into the private worlds of journal keepers an architect, a traveler, a film director, an archeologist, a cancer patient, a songwriter, a quiltmaker, a gardener, an artist, a cyclist, and a scientist, to name just a few illustrating a broad range of journaling styles and techniques that in the end show how each of us can go about documenting our everyday lives. Excerpts from journals by such artists as Maira Kalman, Steven Holl, David Byrne, and Mike Figgis give us a peek at how creative souls observe, reflect, and explore. For those who already keep a journal, *Drawing from Life* will be an inspiration. For those who have always wanted to or tried and failed it might just be the motivation needed to get past that first week.

"Refreshes the power, beauty and possibility of knowing ourselves through daily chronicle and tactile sensation." -- Santa Fe Reporter, September 7, 2005 A richly illustrated exploration of 31 list-, chart-, and sketch-filled journals by painters, filmmakers, engineers, designers, and other visual thinkers. -- The Boston Globe, August 2005 A window into the creative minds of people from all walks of life. -- Anthem, May 2005 Shows how various talented people use their journals as a record and rough draft for their lives and work. -- Metro New York, July 2005 "Painters, photographers, a psychiatrist, a gardener, a songwriter and assorted travelers chart their journeys. The book breaks down the 31 journal keepers based on how they work: observation, reflection, exploration, and creation." -- Linda Brazill --Capital Times, December 10, 2005 "Journals kept by 31 creative types, from cartoonist Lynda Barry and cognitive scientist/engineer Erwin Boer to painter Julie Baugnet, who teaches graphic design at Minnesotas St. Cloud State University, and sketches from a project journal kept by Mineapolis landscape architect Thomas Oslund." -- Mary Abbe --Virginia Pilot, September 25, 2005 "In *Drawing From Life*, New interviews 31 journal-keepers on how they use their notebooks to observe, explore, reflect, and create their worlds and then she lets their words and images speak. The faithful scribes and artists behind this collection of journal excerpts unlock the secrets of their lives and hearts. The result, bound in a journal-like book with rounded corners and a graph paper background, is visually stirring." --Iowa Alumni Magazine, October, 2006 "there is something romantic about this journal..." -- Stephanie Rosenbloom, --The New York Times,

September 8, 2005"Jennifer New offers a compelling examination of the limitless methods of journal-keeping. . . . With contributors ranging from a musician, to a medical illustrator, to an architect, the book documents a whole series of everyday career-people with unusual ways of cataloging the world. " --Resonance, November/December 2005"Picasso left nearly 100 little sketchbooks filled with doodles and drawings that, to the delight of scholars, trace the evolution of his artistic styles." -- Mary Abbe --Brunswick Times - Record, November 3, 2005"Presents sample pages from dozens of peoples journals, all with images as well as writing. " -- Maura C. Flannery --The American Biology Teacher, May, 2006"This book is a must have" --Viewpoint, Spring, 2006"Short engaging essays introduce excerpts reproduced from the visual journals of the 31 artists, cartoonists, mapmaker, scientists, travelers and other creative types, including Minnesotans Julie Baugnet, associate professor of design at St. Cloud University, and Tom Oslund, landscape architect." --Star Tribune, August, 2005"Divided into four categories-observation, reflection, exploration and creation-these are the kind of rough drafts that beg for public viewing. " --Book Stuff, July 25, 2005"Words alone can't describe the richness of the experiences captured in these pages by people like musician David Byrne, film director Mike Figgis, cartoonist Lynda Barry, and artist Gary Brown." --Portsmouth Herald Sunday, August 14, 2005"A most imaginative collection of work from artists journals, the book features the creative work of dozens of creators. Included are personal, imaginative sketches, photographs, full-color illustrations and prose examples of their work." -- Fred Klien --Santa Barbra News Press, January 1, 2008"Visual diaries, as New notes in her preface, are more pragmatic, less confessional, and better fit for public viewing than written diaries.Pouring over the books vivid and arresting pages, it seemed to me visual diaries might also be more useful to the diarist. " -- Kate Bolick --Boston Sunday Globe, July 17, 2005About the AuthorJennifer New is author of the best selling Dan Eldon: The Art of Life . She teaches at the University of Iowa School of Education and lives with her husband and children in Iowa City.